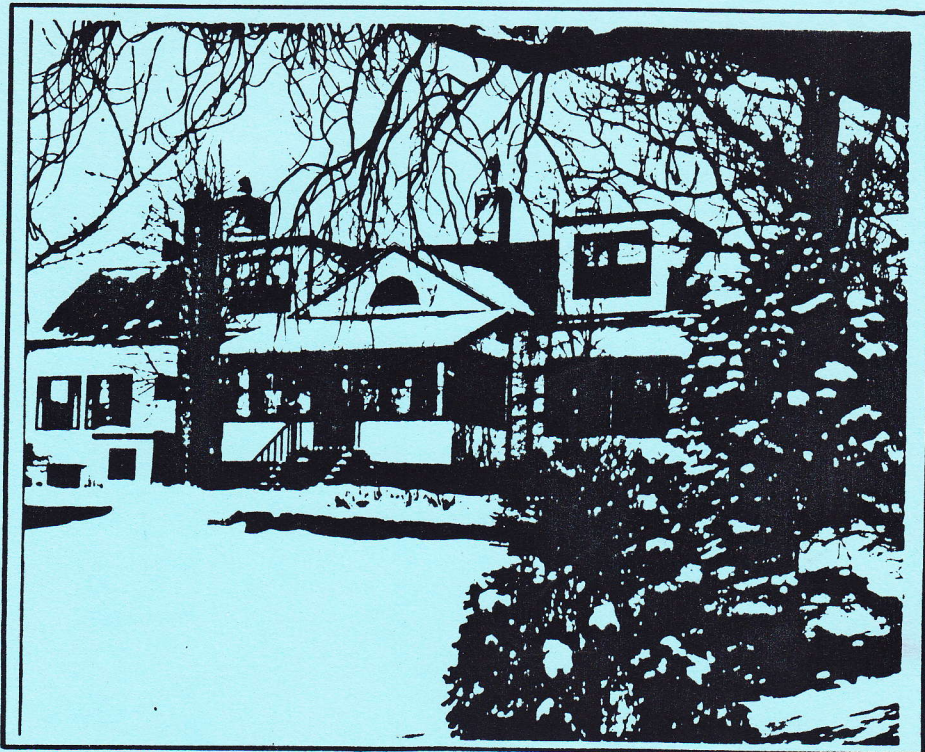


RESIDENCE
OF THE
GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING
ROYAL ARTILLERY PARK
HISTORY

Royal Artillery Park was constructed on property purchased from the Cleary Estate in 1797 to provide the Royal Artillery with quarters, stores and accommodation. The next year saw the erection of a number of small wooden buildings with verandahs. In 1804, work began on the residence of the Commanding Officer and Adjutant of the Royal Artillery. The estimates were prepared by Captain William Fenwick of the Royal Engineers.

In a letter to Lieutenant-General Morse, Inspector General of Fortifications, in London dated April 14, 1805, he explained that Lieutenant-Colonel Charlton, RA, was in possession of his quarters in the building by February 18, 1805, but much to the gallant Colonel's annoyance, only two of the rooms were papered..."Paper hangings and borderings were so extravagantly high here, I have only papered two of Lieutenant-Colonel Charlton's rooms until I receive your further orders on this head, for although it is customary and the Colonel thinks he is therefore fully entitled to have all his rooms papered, I have judged it best to decline doing more than two, the more so as the Ordnance Storekeeper has signified that he proposes to call the attention of the Board to this expense already incurred amounting to £13.10.6".

The General Officer Commanding's residence has been used continuously as a residence either by the Royal Artillery, the Royal Engineers, and after Canada assumed responsibility for the defence of Halifax in 1905, by the officers of the Royal Canadian Artillery. Since 1970, after unification of the Armed Forces, the residence has accommodated senior naval and Maritime Command officers. Today it is the official residence of the Deputy Commander, Maritime Command.



**GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING'S
RESIDENCE
ROYAL ARTILLERY PARK**

18 FEBRUARY 1985

THE BUILDING

The plan form suggests the building was originally designed as a duplex rather than as a Commanding Officer's residence. Harry Piers in "The evolution of the Halifax Fortress 1749-1928" refers to a Commanding Officer's and Adjutant's residence.

Stairs existed on the north side of the east and west chimney blocks giving access to pairs of rooms in the attic. Fireplaces on this level indicate it was originally of some importance but removal of the stairs made the end rooms practically inaccessible. These two stairs and the east hall 205 suggest an original double entry with central rooms assigned to the east occupants.

Outside entries to the basement from the south gave access to two further pairs of rooms at that level. The second from the east has a kitchen-type fireplace and was probably the original kitchen. The easternmost has a substantial manteled fireplace. The western pair had small fireplaces.

The first renovation probably included removal of the interior stairs, construction of new exterior stairs and main entry. This cut through and concealed an original north gable, traces of which remain. The second renovations probably included installation of a kitchen in room 118 and entry thereto.

Present kitchen, den, rooms 123 and 115, porch 110, pantry 112 are presumably later additions.

The shed roof dormers on the south appear old but are not in keeping, probably not original, but may be only one year younger than the main building.

Guest room 105 is closest to original condition and has original plaster mouldings exposed. Doors and frames but not windows also appear original. A wardrobe has been added and should be cut down to a reasonable height. A washroom has been added in the southeast corner and the chimney breast has been gypsum boarded.

Living room 116 has two apparently original casement windows.

Start of construction was in either 1803 or 1804 as a residence for the Commanding Officer and Adjutant of the Royal Artillery. It was first occupied in 1805 as a residence by the Commanding Officer.

The building is one of the oldest surviving residences in Halifax and has considerable significance to the history of the area as the residence, over most of this period, of the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery or the Officer Commanding Royal Engineers.

Little is evident of the original exterior due to various additions and a complete cladding operation, but the bulk of the original building remains within this later shell.

Restoration of the interior, more particularly the main floor and one or two of the attic and basement rooms, is an exciting possibility as these rooms, including their fireplaces, are close to original condition and the old stairs would not represent any great difficulty. This could provide space for many alternative functions with the late additions on the north providing service rooms. The result would be a magnificent suite of five rooms of the period.



R. A. PARK RESIDENCE

OCCUPANTS AS COMMANDER MARITIME COMMAND/COMMANDER ATLANTIC REGION

1970	1971	Vice Admiral H. A. Porter, CD
1971	1973	Rear Admiral R. W. Timbrell, DFC, CD
1973	1974	Rear Admiral D. P. Boyle, CD
1975	1977	Vice Admiral D. P. Boyle, CD

OTHER OCCUPANTS

1977	1981	Commodore E. Colaras, CD
1981	1982	Colonel E. J. Patrick, CD
1982	1984	Commodore E. R. Ross, CD

OCCUPANTS AS DEPUTY COMMANDER MARITIME COMMAND

1984	Rear Admiral F. W. Erickard, OMM, CD
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1987-1989 RADM H. T. PORTER CMM CD
Chief of Staff Maritime Command



1907-1908 LIEUTENANT COLONEL T. BENSON, RCGA
1909-1911 LIEUTENANT COLONEL J.A. FAGES, RCGA
1913-1915 LIEUTENANT COLONEL H.C. THACKER, RCGA
1916-1918 COLONEL W.B. ALMON, RCGA
1919-1922 LIEUTENANT COLONEL L.A.G.O. ROY, RCA
1923-1925 LIEUTENANT COLONEL W.H.P. ELKINS, RCA
1926 BRIGADIER H.C. THACKER, CB, CMG, DSO, RCA
1928-1930 BRIGADIER W.P. GIBSON, CMG, DSO, OBE, RCA
1931 BRIGADIER C.F. CONSTANTINE, DSO
1932-1933 LIEUTENANT COLONEL A.E. HARRIS, RCA
1934-1935 LIEUTENANT COLONEL C.V. STOCKWELL, RCA
1936 MAJOR W.H. DOBIE, DSO, RCA
1937-1938 LIEUTENANT COLONEL V. TREMAINE, RCHA
1939 LIEUTENANT F.J. CORBETT, RCA
1940-1945 COLONEL C.S. CRAIG, OBE, DSO, MC, RCA



OCCUPANTS AS G.O.C. EASTERN COMMAND RESIDENCE

1947-1950 MAJOR-GENERAL H.W. FOSTER, CBE, DSO
1951-1958 MAJOR-GENERAL E.C. PLOW, CBE, DSO, CD
1959-1962 MAJOR-GENERAL W.P. BOGERT, CBE, DSO, CD
1963-1964 MAJOR-GENERAL R.W. MONCEL, DSO, OBE, CD
1965-1966 MAJOR-GENERAL G.A. TURCOT, CD
1967-1969 COLONEL M. TURNER, CD

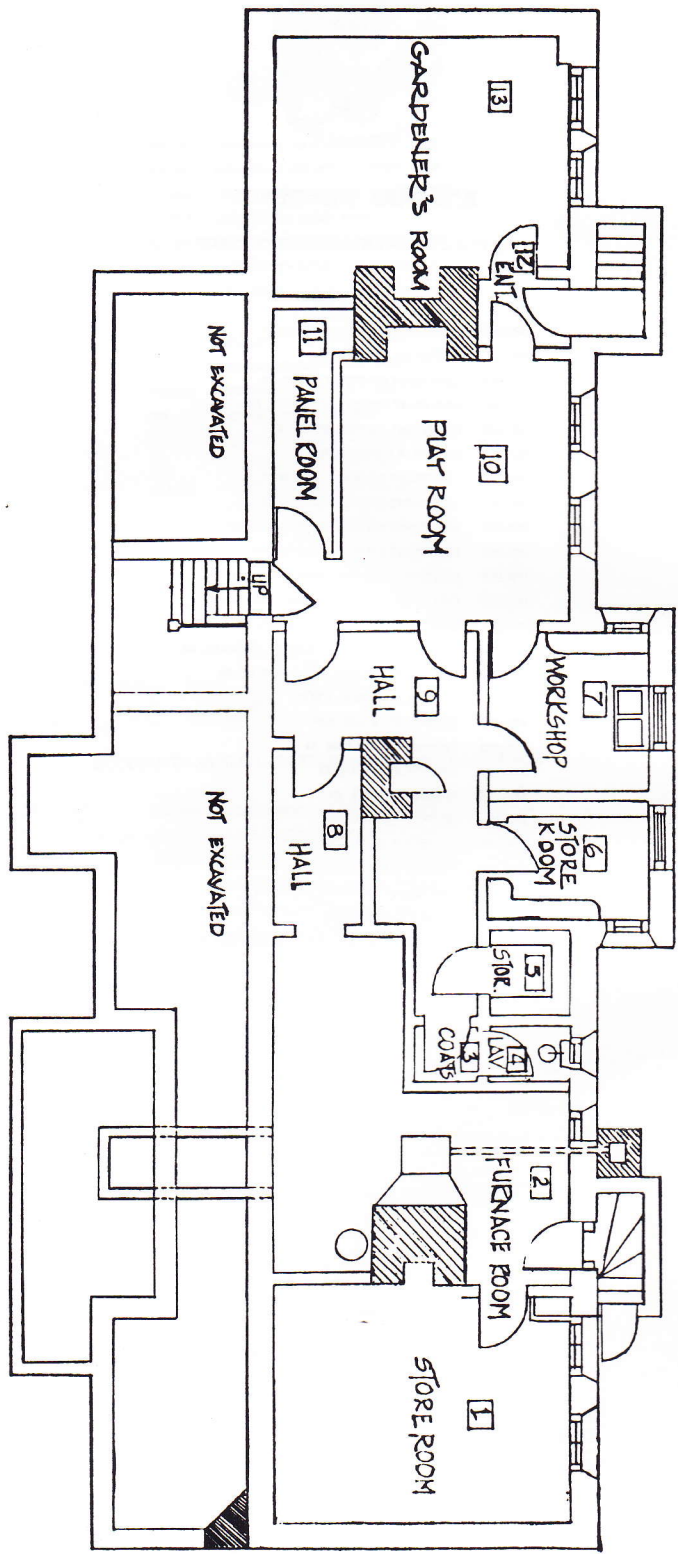


R. A. PARK RESIDENCE

OCCUPANTS AS ARTILLERY RESIDENCE

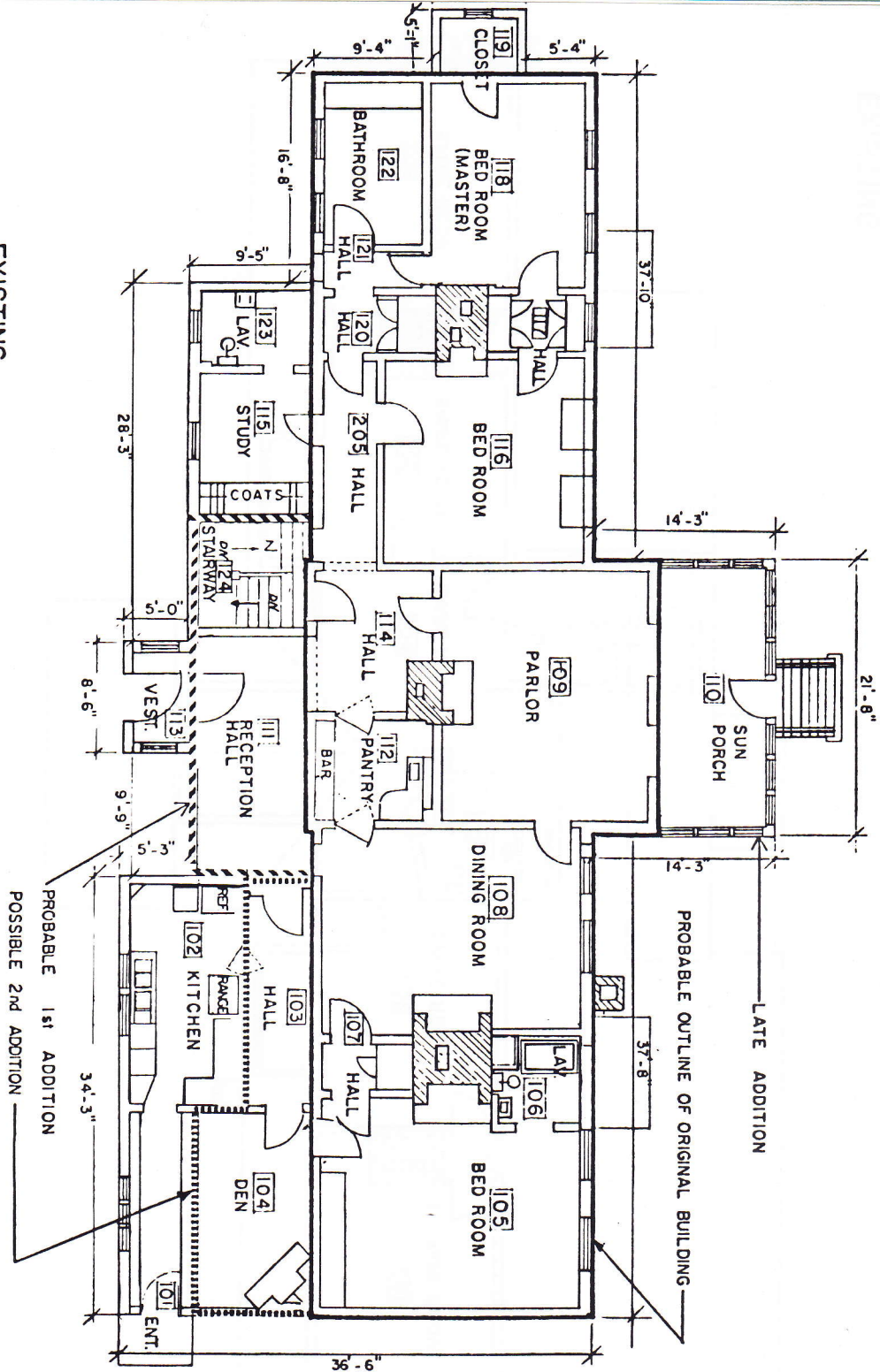
1805	COLONEL CHARLETON, RA
1808-1809	LIEUTENANT COLONEL D. MEREDITH, RA
1810	CAPTAIN Hy. PHILLOTT, RA
1811-1815	LIEUTENANT COLONEL W. DIXON, RA
1827-1828	LIEUTENANT COLONEL G. FORSTER, RA
1829-1832	LIEUTENANT COLONEL BREDIN, RA
1837	COLONEL R.S. BROUGH, RA
1838-1842	LIEUTENANT COLONEL A.C. MERCER, RA
1845-1847	LIEUTENANT COLONEL H.G. JACKSON, RA
1848-1852	LIEUTENANT COLONEL BROWNE WILLIS, RA
1853-1855	LIEUTENANT COLONEL W. FRASER, RA
1856-1858	LIEUTENANT COLONEL FRANCIS DICK, RA
1860-1862	LIEUTENANT COLONEL ANTHONY BENN, RA
1863-1867	LIEUTENANT COLONEL M. CLIFFORD, CB, RA
1868-1869	LIEUTENANT COLONEL LAMBERT F. GREVILLE, RA
1870-1872	LIEUTENANT COLONEL F.R. GLANVILLE, RA
1873	COLONEL J.R. GIBBON, CB, RA
1874-1878	COLONEL J.L. ELGEE, RA
1879-1882	COLONEL A.W. DRAYSON, RA
1883-1884	COLONEL H. Le COCQ, RA
1885-1889	COLONEL P.E. HILL, RA
1890-1893	COLONEL T.R. RYAN, RA
1894-1896	COLONEL H. des ISAACSON, RA
1897-1900	COLONEL H.B. KINGSCOTE, RA
1902-1904	LIEUTENANT COLONEL R.A. RIGG, RA
1905	MAJOR C.D. BAKER, RGA
1906	LIEUTENANT COLONEL E.B. ANDERSON, DSO, RE

**EXISTING
BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN**

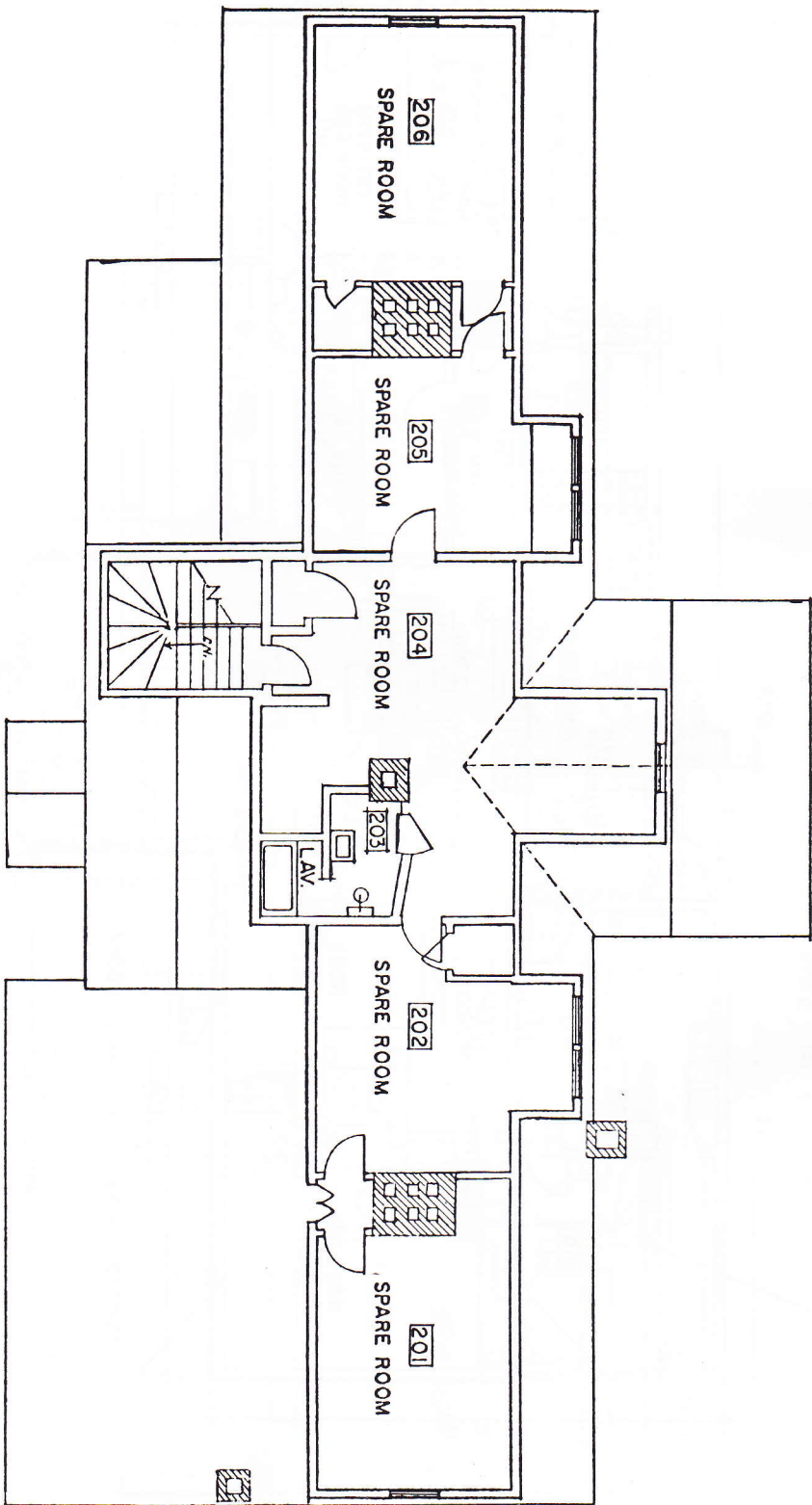


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**EXISTING
FIRST FLOOR PLAN**



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